(d) whether Gujarati Programmes are not being telecast by Doordarshan; and

(e) whether all the Panchayats have been provided with television sets for the people, if not, by what time all the villages will be provided television sets in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) :(a) TV service, at present, is estimated to be available to about 76.8 per cent population of Gujarat, inclusive of population in fringe areas.

(b) Besides, the Doordarshan Kendras at Ahmedabad (High Power Transmitter with studio facilities) and High Power Transmitters at Rajkot with Programme Generation facility and Dwarka, 28 Low Power Transmitters and a Very Low Power T.V. Transmitter, are presently functioning in Gujarat.

(c) TV service in the country is being expanded in a phased manner, depending on availability of resources. With the commissioning of various transmitter projects under implementation/envisaged to be set up about 94 per cent population of Gujarat is expected to be brought under TV coverage, including the population in fringe areas, Extension of TV coverage to the remaining uncovered population would depend on availability of sources in the future plans of TV expansion.

(d) No, Sir. The various High Power & Low Power T.V. transmitters in Gujarat are linked to Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad for relay of regional service programmes, besides relaying national service programmes fed from Delhi via satellite.

(e) Provision of community viewing sets in the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

TIME ALLOTTED FOR TELECASTING TAMIL PROGRAMMES IN DELHI

2637. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN :

SHRI MISRA R. GANESAN :

SHRI I. S. RAJU :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the time allotted for Tamil programmes in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to hold Tamil Classes through TV transmission; and

(c) if so, what is the time allotted for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No Specific time has been allotted for Tamil programmes by Doordarshan Kendra Delhi. It, however, telecasts programme in regional languages including Tamil in its regional language chunck.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

EIGHT INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL

2638. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news item in the Economic Times dated 5th December, 1993, captioned "the Adults ran off with it";

(b) whether it is a fact that the Eighth International children's film festival was hijacked by adults ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for side lining children and their participation in the Eighth International Children's film festival ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

OBJECTIVES OF 8TH INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL

2639. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what was the expenditure incurred in holding the Eighth International Childern's Film Festival in Udaipur ;

(b) what were the objectives of this film festival;

(c) whether it is a fact that commercial films were included for screening in the film festival; and

(d) the steps being taken to adhere to the guidelines laid down for holding children's film festival ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) While the accounts of actual expenditure are being compiled by the National Centre of Films for Children and Young People (N'CYP), it is expected to be close to the budget estimates of Rs. 150 lakhs.

(b) The objectives of this festival like previous such festivals were :

(i) To bring together and promote films from all over the world, whose main purpose is to entertain and educate children and young people, and to help them acquire a more critical appreciation of the film art.

(ii) To encourage the exchange of ideas and points of view between filmmakers, children and young people to pay special attention to those films which attempt to foster mutual understanding and awareness of problems between children, young people and adults.

(iii) To exhibit the best of children and youth films having artistic, pedagogic and humanitarian qualities which contribute to a better understanding between people and cultures.

(c) Two recent films basically centring round children and young people, namely 'HUM HAI RAHI PYAR KE' and 'JO JEETA WOHI SIKANDAR' which had run in the commercial circuit earlier were shown in the associated screenings during the festival. These two films did not, however, form part of any official section of festival. In the Nostalgia Section of the festival, which pertained to basically good old films for children, certain old films of interest to children which had earlier run in commercial circuit were screened.

(d) No formal guidelines have been laid down for children's film festivals. The estival conducted at Udaipur was however, in the pattern of international festivals of the same type and the earlier seven festivals held by N'CYP.

GUIDELINES OF IMPOSING TAX OF THE CABLE T. V. OPERATION

2640. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked the Cable TC operators to pay tax ;

(b) if so, what are the guidelines of imposing tax on the Cable T.V. operators;

(c) whether Ministry has made any survey of the number of Cable TV operators in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND